THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir. In addition to Indian Airlines Vayudoot Ltd. also operate on Calcutta-Agartala sector.

(b) and (c) Domestic air fare in India is one of the lowest in the world. Fare in the Calcutta-Agartala sector is about 22 per cent lower than the fares on comparative sector in other parts of the country.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Government is aware of the problem of transport in the State of Tripura.

Progress report on power projects to U.S Government

*33. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to send regular progress reports to the U. S. Government on power projects involving U. S. investment; and

(b) if so, what are the compulsions in sending such reports to the U. S. Government and what are the implications on the domestic power industry?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Cable Television in Tamil Nadu

*34. SHRI VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to hind it;

(a) whether it is a fact that Cable Operators in Tamil Nadu have to register their names in the different offices as instructed by the State Government of Tamil Nadu as well as under the Cable T.V. Regulation Ordinance promulgated by the Central Government;

(b) if so, what is the rationable behind it.

(c) whether there is any monitoring agency to check the violation of Advertisement Code by the T.V.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Only the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Ordinance provides for registration of cable operators in the country. The Act enacted by the Government of Tamil Nadu provides for grant of licence only for exhibition of film on television screen through video cassette recorder or through cable television network.

(c) and (d) Doordarshan previews the advertisements to ensure that these do not violate any of the provisions of the provisions of the Code for Commercial Advertising.

Financial assistance to sick industries in Gujarat and Maharashtra

*35. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of financial assistance provided to sick units in Gujarat and Maharashtra during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) what is the number of sick industries in the State alongwith the details thereof;

(c) whether proposals for providing financial assistance to sick industries are pending with Government as on date; and

(d) what are the reasons for the delay in respect of these proposals and by when the same are likely to be disposed of finally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The date reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, RBI have reported that the number of sick small scale industrial (SSI) units and non-SSI units and outstanding credit of scheduled commercial banks during the last three years

in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra was as under:

(Rs. crores)

Name of the State	Non-SSI Sick Units		SSI Sick Units	
	No. of units	Amount O/s*	No. of units	Amount O/s*
MARCH 1991				
Gujarat	154	584.22	6240	211.14
Maharashtra	301	1342.05	20332	561.86
MARCH 1992				
Gujarat	155	651 01	6581	221.01
Maharashtra	301	1521.08	20153	603.10
SEPTEMBER 1992 (latest available)				
Gujarat	159	618.20	6391	228.16
Maharashtra	306	1589.04	19935	632.78

*Outstanding

(c) and (d) Proposals received in the Government from sick industrial units normally relate to grant of reliefs/concessions and additional financial assistance from banks/financial institutions. In this connection, RBI has issued detailed guidelines to banks regarding formulation and implementation of rehabilitation packages in respect of sick SSI units considered potentially viable. Rehabilitation packages inter-alia provide for funding of existing dues of banks and financial institutions with extended period of repayment thereof in a phased manner; interest concessions, grant of fresh term loans as also fresh working capital facilities. RBI has also advised banks to process such cases expeditiously. Cases of sick industrial units brought to the notice of Government are taken up with the concerned bank/financial institution for necessary action.

As regards non-SSI sick units, it may be added that sick industrial companies are required, under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA), to be referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for determination of remedial and other measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. Where a scheme for rehabilitation of a company is sanctioned BIFR; public sector banks/financial institutions provide facilities in terms of the sanctioned scheme.

Discrimination in providing loan to farmers and industries

*36. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the loan/subsidy given to the farmers is far less than the amount sanctioned as loan/advance, to industries based on agriculture;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) whether this discrimination will be done away with and both sectors will be treated at par in procuring loan/finance?